THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Aircraft was received in India in July, 1987. It has flown for a total of about 290 hours, out of which the use for fire suppression and detection is only 4 hours and 20 minutes.

(c) The aircraft has not yet been returned to the UNDP. It would be returned as and when UNDP authorities are prepared to receive it.

Re-employment of ex-servicemen

51. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of ex-servicemen as on 31st December, 1989;

(b) what is the number of them who have been re-employed in Government service;

(c) the number of retired defence personnel registered for re-employment as on date; and

(d) what steps have been taken for providing them employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) According to the estimates received from the States/Union Territories, there were about 44 lakh ex-Servicemen in the country as on 31 December, 1989.

(b) Re-employment of ex-Servicemen in civil jobs is an on-going process. As per provisional estimates available, 16044 ex-Sservicemen were placed in civil jobs under the Central and State Governments (including Public Sector Undertakings and Local Bodies) during 1989.

(c) The number of registrants on the Live Registers of Zila/Rajya Sainik Boards, including those registered with Directorate General of Resettlement is 2,59,780, as on 1 January, '90.

(d) There is a comprehensive programme for the rehabilitation of ex-Servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Groups 'C' and 'D' posts in Central Government Departments, as well as Public Sector Undertakings, including Nationalised Banks. Most State Governments have also provided for reservation in civil posts, in varying degrees, in favour of ex-Servicemen. Besides, a number of schemes are in existence to provide self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I Scheme which provides financial assistance to ex-Servicemen for setting up small industrial projects; the SEMFEX-II Scheme to encourage ex-Servicemen to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; allotment of petroleum products agencies; allotment of Unit Trust of India agencies, transportation agencies for coal and petroleum products; price subsidy to ex-Servicemen for small scale industrial units for products supplied to Defence Establishments; etc.

Amount for development of North Eastern States

52. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been earmarked in the current financial year for the development of North-Eastern States; and

(b) what are the names of the new projects which are likely to be set up with the help of central assistance in the North-Eastern Region, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) A statement showing approved outlays for the Annual Plan 1990-91 for the States in the North Eastern Region, North